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Applicant: Smith, *et al.*
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PROPOSED DRAWING CHANGES

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of the first examination in the above-identified patent application, Applicants request amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the Claims which begins on page 9 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 17 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 18 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 16 of this paper.